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FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

IN CHARGE OF

LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N.

A REVOLUTIONARY AGE

Odd things are happening in the affairs of nurses abroad as well as at home. Surely the bacillus of revolution is affecting us as well as some bigger people.

What a curious sight it must have been to see, on Oxford Street, that thronged thoroughfare in London, nurses gravely and sedately pacing the curbstones with sandwich boards hung upon them, on which boards were inscribed a protest against the attempt of society women to collect a charitable fund for nurses, and the plain declaration, "Professional Women do not Want Charity." Sandwich boards borne to carry a protest were a common sight in London in the days of Militant Woman Suffrage. In this country they have seldom been used in such ways, and this recent event is the first instance on record of nurses resorting to this spectacular but extremely effective method of making public protest.

The English nurses have been unable to get their point of view as to this humiliating exploitation, against their will, into the press, and so they bravely took a leaf from the Suffragettes and formed a sandwich board parade. It took courage to do so, as we know by experience, and it is a strange side-light one gets on the vexatious meddling and interference with their legitimate affairs that our British sisters are subjected to!

Another odd happening is that the Hon. Albinia Brodrick, bless her Irish heart! has had the adventure of being arrested, taken to jail, and kept there for two days for refusing to carry out some English law relating to the state insurance or pension for servants. She was threatened with a long incarceration and a goodly fine, but was released at the end of two days, the whole thing evidently having been quite illegal. We do not understand the exact significance of the episode but feel certain it had something to do with the cause of Irish independence.

Our dear Madame Mannerheim is in the midst of the agitating scenes in Finland and we are reminded of her afresh in reading the name of General Mannerheim as in charge of the White forces against the Red. Earnestly do we hope that Finland will soon be free from all complications of Russia. Finland's civilization is high and fine and is already an example for others to follow. Her ideal is complete independence. May it soon be fulfilled.

Oh that news might come that German women are rising against a military caste! Perhaps it will, soon.